

Bloomfield Citizen.

WEEKLY JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY

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THE CITIZEN solicits contributions from the general public on any subject—political, religious, educational, or social—as long as they do not contain any personal attacks.

All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith.

Advertisements for insertion in the current week must be in hand not later than Friday noon.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1906.

Political Tarrnell.

The Town Council has organized, sub-committees have been named and appointments made, and under ordinary circumstances a period of tranquillity should ensue in local political circles. But there must be something extraordinary about the circumstances surrounding local politics, for instead of tranquillity there is persistent war talk. Grievances appear to be numerous and the aggrieved inconsiderable. Determined declarations are heard on every hand about a squaring of accounts next fall. Much of this vengeful talk is undoubtedly of the quality known as hot air, and if the administration that came into power January 1, 1906, makes a satisfactory showing at the close of the year it will meet with popular approval and the spirit of discontent will narrow down to a small fraction, composed of people with personal grievances, and that class of people can never be eliminated from politics.

The turmoil now extant in local politics appears to be largely among the radical annexation element. Some of those among the citizens of the town who were pronounced in their views in favor of annexation and whose heads were battered with anti-annexation outcries are doubtless extracting a little quiet amusement out of the present situation in local affairs. There is a possibility of a love feast soon between conservative annexationists and anti-annexationists.

Firemen's Relief Fund.

Chief Engineer James Y. Nicoll has called a meeting of the officers and members of the Fire Department, to be held in central fire house Tuesday evening, January 10th, for discussing ways and means of increasing the funds of the Firemen's Relief Fund. The claims on the relief fund during the past year were in excess of the income of the association to the amount of nearly \$600. Heretofore the interest on the invested funds of the Firemen's Relief Association about met the claims upon the fund, but this year a drain upon the principle had to be made to meet demands. A proposition under consideration is to hold a three days' bazaar for the benefit of the relief fund.

Mr. Reas's Appointment.

In accordance with a rule laid down by the State Board of Taxation Bloomfield is one of the municipalities in which separate and distinct valuations must be made on land and buildings by the assessors. Wm. B. Reas, the newly appointed member of the Board of Assessors, is a builder by occupation and has had a wide and practical experience in erecting houses, and his knowledge in that line ought to serve him in good stead in his work in the Board of Assessors.

Prohibition Rally.

A series of meetings to discuss the prohibition of the liquor traffic are being held in the W. O. T. U. Hall, E. at Orange, on the first Thursday of each month. Rev. Dr. C. S. Woodruff spoke last Thursday to an audience that filled the hall on "Prohibition, and Why?" Persons were present from Orange and Bloomfield, as well as East Orange. The meeting was pronounced a success.

Republican Club Officers.

The Second Ward Republican Club elected the following officers Tuesday night: T. E. Hayes, president; Walter Tappan, vice-president; George Hummel, treasurer; John Reas, secretary; Charles Hummel, Leonard Heckel, Daniel Schickel, members of Executive Committee.

A special committee was appointed to prepare plans for a club building and report at the February meeting. Emmet Day, Charles Fredericks and J. M. Walker are the committee.

With the advent of the New Year have come the announcements of several new engagements, the latest being that of Miss Caroline MacLaren, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David MacLaren, of 62 Frank street, to Robert L. Johnstone of New York.—Ottawa (Canada) Citizen.

Legislation Bill.

The limited franchise and equal taxation members of the Legislature from Essex and Hudson counties are uncertain at this time whether to introduce the bills on those subjects which they have prepared, at the opening session of the House on Tuesday. It is not customary to introduce measures on the opening day, but it is known to have been done in cases where it was necessary to enact a law which some exigency demands shall become operative without delay. Such a bill was the one increasing the salary of the Governor from \$5,000 to \$10,000, which was passed at the opening of the session of 1890. It was introduced to have Governor Leon Abbott benefit by the increase, and as he took office on the Tuesday following the organization of the Legislature it was necessary to enact the law the first week of the session.

The order for the organization of the Legislature is for the clerk and secretary to call the members to order at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Prayer is then offered and the roll is called. The new members are then sworn in, and after signing the oath they proceed to organize the chamber by electing the presiding officer and the secretary or clerk. As both parties present a candidate for presiding officer in all the oratory of their best speakers and the successful candidate returns his thanks to a more or less extent, this takes considerable time.

Library Notes.

An uncommonly interesting book, and one of permanent value, is "Outdoor Pastimes of an American Hunter," by Theodore Roosevelt. Its central idea is the relation of wild animal life to human life. Always a close observer of life out-of-doors, the president has given us in this record of recent hunting trips a large amount of information in a very attractive form. He introduced us to people as well as animals, who have been his friends, and we are continually reminded of his habit of looking for and appreciating what is best in man and beast.

Other books in the library by Mr. Roosevelt are: "American Ideals and Other Essays," "Big Game Hunting in the Rockies," "Gouverneur Morris," (American Statesmen), "Thomas H. Benton" (American Statesman), "New York" (Historic Towns), "Naval War of 1812," "Oliver Cromwell," "Rough Riders," "Strenuous Life," "Winning of the West." In 1897 the third book of the Boone and Crockett Club was edited by Mr. Roosevelt and George Bird Grinnell.

There are two interesting lives of Roosevelt in the library. "The Man Roosevelt," by F. E. Luemp, and "Theodore Roosevelt, the Citizen," by his ardent admirer, Jacob A. Elser. Both carry him to the year 1901.

There is a new nature book, "Way of Nature," by Burroughs, for older readers, said to be quite different from his former writings, and for little folks "Animal Heroes," by Thompson Seton. Two other juveniles which call for special mention are "Wigwam Stories" told by North American Indians, compiled by M. O. Judd, and "Children of the Cold," by Frederick Schwatka.

Public School Information.

County School Superintendent Meredith has issued a pamphlet containing much information concerning the schools of the county. The names are given of the members of the Boards of Education and the teachers in all the municipalities in the county, excepting Newark, Orange and East Orange. The custodians of school money in all the places are named. It is stated that a library of pedagogical books containing 590 volumes has been established in the county for the use of teachers. The county has been divided into eight districts, with a library in each. It is announced that county examinations for teachers' certificates will be held on the first Fridays and Saturdays of October, February and May at the Park School at Nutley. The Board of Examiners consists of Mr. Meredith, Clarence E. Morse, Charles B. Evans and Geo. B. Gerard.

Against Flat Wheels.

General Superintendent Seligman and Charles A. Keller, Newark Inspector of trolley cars, were directed by the Board of Works to institute police court proceedings against the Public Service Corporation whenever in the future cars are found in operation with flat wheels or defective machinery. For two years and four months Keller has been submitting to the board weekly reports of violations of the city ordinances by the Public Service, but only twice in all that time has any action been taken to enforce the penalty provided. Instead the reports have been sent to the company with the request that the cars mentioned as defective be repaired.

Death of William H. Holt.

William H. Holt, a son of the late William and Margaret Holt, and a nephew of John R. Conlan, died in the Roosevelt Hospital, New York, Thursday from pneumonia. Mr. Holt was twenty-eight years old. He was born here. For the past three years he had been in Huntington, N. Y., and was on his way to Orange to visit his sister, Mrs. William Smith, when taken ill.

Moral Training in Public Schools.

The American public school system, great and beneficial as it is, and with its splendid record of achievement, is not without its detractors. Some people are prejudiced against public school education on account of its democratic principles, but the most serious charge that the American system of public education has to contend with is that of the absence of religious training in its scope of work. Those who object to the public schools on religious grounds put their accusation in a more insinuating form by turning to its lack of moral training. The argument for State support of secular schools makes the plea that the public schools cannot turn out good citizens on account of the inability of such schools to teach matters of a purely religious nature.

Dr. William M. Swingle, Superintendent of the Orange Public Schools, in an address before the State Teachers' Association at Atlantic City last week spoke on the subject of the moral features of public school work. He said: "There are those who see a serious menace in the existing conditions that are found in the educational field, and severe criticism is passed upon a system that does not prove more adequate for the religious and moral development of the children who are trained in our schools."

"The field of moral and civic instruction is quite distinct from religious instruction. How is it possible to divorce morality from religion? In this country formal religious instruction is entirely excluded from the public schools, but is made a part of the course of study in most denominational and parochial schools and in a few private schools. Since a very large percentage of our youth attend the public schools they have absolutely no opportunities for religious instruction, unless provided for by the home or the church. The view that State supported schools must refrain from any direct sectarian influence has been so general that it has led to sweeping provisions against sectarian religious instruction of any kind."

"The home is the great school for character building. What is the tendency in the average American home to-day? There are those who say that the training received in the great majority of homes brings no good to the State. It is in our large cities that the problem is to be solved. What can be expected of the homes where there are no Sundays, no Sunday-school lessons, no Bible, no hope of a better life, nothing to inspire and uplift, nothing to give strength and power for the battle against evil?"

The school is sometimes made the scapegoat for all the evils that are rampant in society. It is not the only institution upon which moral responsibility rests. For the few brief months during which the average child remains in school, how impotent is the influence of the teacher against the street, the vile literature that blights like a killing frost, the cheap theatre, the home that is no home, and the thousand evils that pollute the currents of life in our cities! In a vast majority of cases the only moral instruction that many children receive is that which is acquired in the school. On the other side of the scale we have the child, often with inherited tendencies to crime, surrounded with the evil influences of the street and a bad home, where he spends five-sixths of his time; and on the other side we have the school, often with a weak teacher, where he spends the other one-sixth of his time. Is it any wonder that the schools often fail?"

"The end of the school is to help each individual to make the most of himself and to enable the State to make the most of its individuals. How shall this be done? Not by special instruction in morals, not by textbooks and discourses, but by example."

Soldiers' Monument.

To THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN: Sir: In the issue of your paper of December 30 was an article in the interest of a soldiers' monument in Bloomfield. The members of William S. Pierson Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary of the Grand Army, have long had this matter at heart, and have contributed personally toward a monument fund, till now they have a snug little sum in the bank. Mrs. G. E. S. Mead, 289 Maple avenue, is the treasurer of the corps. She will gladly receipt for all sums sent to her for this object.

FIRST CONTRIBUTOR.

Enterprize Rehearsal. The Enterprize Society, a musical organization composed of well-known residents of this town and Glen Ridge, held a rehearsal at Centre School Thursday night under the leadership of Walter E. Morris of Glen Ridge.

New Subscribers.

The New York and New Jersey Telephone Company report the following new subscribers: 1039-h, Joseph A. Smith, 114 Thomas street; 1160-r, Florence Tennant, 113 Washington street; 879-j, Eliza B. Whipple, 68 Park avenue; 879-l, C. L. Taylor, 12 Jersey street; 1137-w, Emma A. C. Barr, 224 Broad street; 514-r, Winant Conklin, 201 Orange road; 1127-r, W. J. Miller, 335 Bloomfield avenue; 1059-w, W. E. Swale, 64 Linden avenue; 1005-w, W. H. Stevenson, 399 Bloomfield avenue; 1150-w, Mrs. James B. Drew, 119 Washington street.

Glen Ridge Council.

The retiring Mayor and Council of Glen Ridge borough met at 11:30 o'clock Monday morning and finished up the business for the year. Appropriations amounting to \$30,000 for the year were recommended. The retiring Mayor, A. R. Brewer, made an address, in which he referred to the many improvements made during his eleven years in the Council, four years of which he was Mayor. The borough finances, he said, were in a splendid condition, the assets amounting to about \$30,000 over the liabilities. Before adjournment Councilman Bristol, on behalf of the Council, presented Mr. Brewer with a silver cup. At exactly noon President George O. White called the new Council to order. The clerk read the returns of the election held last November, showing that Arthur J. Lockwood had been elected Mayor to succeed Mr. Brewer, and John H. Skiel Councilman to succeed Edward N. Bristol. Mr. White appointed Councilman Knight and Tyson to conduct Mr. Lockwood to the room. He was welcomed by the members and sworn into office by Borough Clerk Place. Mr. Skiel, on account of sickness, was not present.

The Council was then organized by the election of George O. White as president, and the appointment by the Mayor, confirmed by the Council, of Levi Best as Councilman to succeed Councilman Sheffield, resigned. Mr. Best's appointment is for the unexpired term. The second Monday in each month, at 8 P. M., was designated as the meeting nights of the Council. The following nominations were made by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council:

Borough clerk, Clarence Place; recorder, William E. Smith; chief of police, John A. Brown; borough marshal, Dr. H. C. Harris; commissioner to assess damages and benefits in the opening of Parkway, to succeed the present Mayor, John Sherman.

The Mayor announced the following standing committees: Finance, Lampher and Knight; streets and sidewalks, Knight and Lampher; police, Skiel and White; water and light, White and Skiel; fire, Skiel and Best; sewers, Tyson and Best; law and franchise, White and Lampher; parks, Tyson and White; ordinances, Best and Tyson.

The salary of the borough clerk was fixed at \$500. Councilman Knight reported that the cost of the Thomas street branch drain would be \$336. The matter was referred to the street and sidewalk committee.

Woman's Club of Glen Ridge.

The Woman's Club of Glen Ridge held its monthly meeting last night.

Over three hundred women were present, including members and guests. The meeting was one of the most—if not the most—enthusiastic and inspiring in the history of the club. Shortly after three o'clock the president, Mrs. Charles T. Dodd, called the meeting to order. A short business meeting was held and reports read by the several officers. At its close Mrs. Dodd introduced Mrs. Andrew H. Newbury of Jersey City, president of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs, who spoke most encouragingly of the good work being done by women's clubs throughout the State of New Jersey, and in a very gracious and encouraging manner complimented the Woman's Club of Glen Ridge on the work it was doing and seeking to do, and also spoke of its growth as being almost phenomenal. The stimulus and uplift which Mrs. Newbury's talk produced seemed to be felt by all present.

Then the art department took charge of the meeting, and Miss Stewart, in a few well chosen words, introduced Miss Alice Seaton Schmidt, who gave a lecture on Italian art, illustrated by fine stereoscopic views of many well-known works of art in old Italy. Miss Schmidt held the attention of her hearers from first to last, and showed plainly that her life had been spent in at study both at home and abroad. Although it was the first time that Miss Schmidt had appeared before a New Jersey audience the hope was expressed that it might not be the last.

Tea was then served, this being quite an innovation, but the social time was much enjoyed. The nine departments of the club are actively engaged along their various lines, and meetings are being held by some of the departments each day in the week. Thus the New Year opens for the club with every reason for encouragement.

Base-Ball.

The Watessing Base-ball Club will meet next month to reorganize for the season of 1906. It is probable that Archie M. Dalley will again be chosen to act as manager.

Five Billion Phone Messages a Year. "Hello central" was shouted 5,070,554,553 times by telephone users in the United States in one year, according to statistics prepared by the Census Bureau.

There was a telephone for every thirty-four persons in the year 1904, and an average of 2,190 messages for every telephone, or sixty-five messages for every man, woman and child of a population of 75,376,486 persons. There were 2,515,297 telephones in operation, and of these 10,516 were public exchanges, and 20,270 public or semi-public stations or telephones used by the general public.

The various systems reported 2,178,305 subscribers and 2,224,086 private telephones.—Washington Correspondence to the Philadelphia North American.

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Let other dealers say what they please, the proof of the "Turkey" is in the eating.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

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THE SEVENTIETH Dividend of Interest credited to Depositors on January 1, 1906.

Since its organization this Institution has paid to its Depositors \$255,000.00 in Interest.

THEODORE H. WARD, President
JOHN C. KEYLER, Vice-President
HOWARD BIDDULPH, Treasurer.

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A New Lot of Remnants of

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will be on sale at about one-fifth the regular price, which is 75c yd. at the big stores.

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